

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Eiji Kasutani, et al.

Examiner: Jayesh A. Patel

Serial No: 10/516,086

Art Unit: 2624

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

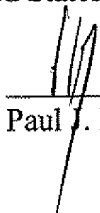
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-178829 filed June 19, 2002, corresponding to Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2004-23656 dated January 22, 2004, together with English-language abstract.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on April 8, 2009.

Dated: April 8, 2009



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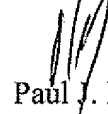
The reference was cited in a Japanese Office Action dated February 17, 2009 received in a related U.S. Patent Application, namely U.S. Serial No. 10/506,091. Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited reference, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the reference from the Office Action. The relevance of the reference is described in the Office Action.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an Office Action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

Further, the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), no fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

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